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Sub : Eng [M.A, Sem-I, CC-1, Unit-4]

Topic : The Canonization : John

Q) Critical appreciation of the poem 'The Canonization.'.

= 'The Canonization' is one of the famous love poem written by John Donne. However Donne is well known as a metaphysical poet but his love poems are equally popular. Donne's genius, temperament and learning gave to his love poems power and fascination. ~~The~~ Donne's love poetry is complex and has described different aspects of love poems. The present poem reveals Platonic strain of love. It was written in 1603 and this poem was born out of the poet's love for Anne Mare, whom he loved passionately and devotedly, and elopment and subsequent marriage with whom ruined his fortunes.

The poem is based upon a positive attitude towards love and showing satisfaction in a love relationship. ~~The~~ But the poem is based ~~on~~ upon a paradox

the poet here ~~compares~~ describes the profane love as if it were a divine love. We all know that according to church love of woman is a profane love, but Donne has proved that the poet and his beloved are saints of love.

In the very first stanza the poet rebuked the person who dissuade him from love making. He told him to hold his tongue because if he ~~can~~ points out towards his disease and old age, it doesn't matter to him but if he is chiding him for his love, then he is simply wasting his time as well as mine. He further advises him to take care of his own issues - "go and keep yourself busy with politics, money-making, win royal favour, learn new subjects or whatever if might be, may engage yourself in but cultivating arts, You may choose any of the activities you like, but please, let me love.

In next stanza the poet shows his love is not an obstacle for anyone. No ship of merchant will sink due to his sighs. ~~My~~ His tears of love will not bring flood, nor any damage to the farmers, nor will my colds remove the forth coming spring seasons. The heat of his vows caused by ~~my~~ his love will not intefere in the activities of Soldier and lawyers. Thus nobody will be

injured by his love.

~~Next~~ In the next stanza the poet ~~like~~ compares himself and his beloved with various things like, fly, tapers, eagle, dove. ~~Even the~~ and phoenix also. The comparision of the lovers to the phoenix is very skilefully related to the two earlier comparisons, that in which the lovers are like burning tapers and that in which they are like the eagle and the dove. The phoenix is a bird and like the tapers, it burns. Hence the phoenix comparison gathers up both.

In the last half of the poem the poet has proved ~~his~~ why he has used the word The Canonization for his worldly love. The word canonization means, "making a saint according to the law of the church. The poet says that if they cannot live by love, they can at least die by it. they can afford to trade life for death is the consummation of the act of love. they may not be legendary figures, they may not be worthy of tombs and memorials but they will be worthy of the poetry. Chronicles may not be written on them but sonnets and songs will be written on them and their love. they may not ~~have~~ find a pace in a tomb stretching in half acre land; but they like a

wrought urn will suit the greatest ashes. And by these hymes they shall be confirmed by the world as Canonized lovers. Because their love is not mundane and lustful, they can give up the other lusts the lust for wealth and power; because their love can outlast its consummations, they are a minor miracle, they are love's saints.

In the end of the poem we find the same glorification of love as we have seen in some of other poems also where the entire world is represented by his tiny world of love. The poet says that they have been recognized by the world as canonized lovers, people will say, "You are those who have been made by reverend love, the lodgement of one another; to you love was peace; you made yourselves self sufficient in knowledge of the world since everything in the world is to be found in each of you, for you are each a world. In each other ~~eyes~~ eyes you drive the countries, towns and courts, i.e, you have gained the world in each other, now a more meaningful world. Since you are saint of love ask God to give a pattern of your love, so that others may love as you did.

Thus the ~~love~~ word Canonization used by the poet for his love is justified by him.